

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-19 (Cancelled):

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) A method for forming drops of preproducts of thermoplastic polyesters or copolyesters like molten monomer, oligomer, monomer-glycol-mixture or of a molten preproduct after a partially polycondensation and a melting of the same, ~~wherein the comprising the step of introducing~~ drops of said preproduct ~~is introduced~~ into a gaseous medium, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said gaseous medium accelerates the crystallization procedure of said drops of said preproduct having drops of a diameter from 0.3 to 3 mm after said drops of preproduct are introduced and wherein said gaseous medium carries out acceleratively a crystallization status of said preproduct by maintaining said drops of said preproduct above a temperature of 100° C and below its melting point for a limited period of time until a crystallization of said drops is finished on their surface.

Claim 21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein air is used as said gaseous medium.

Claim 22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an atmosphere poor of oxygen is used as a said gaseous medium.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein inert gas is used as said gaseous medium.

Claim 24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein nitrogen is used as said gaseous medium.

Claim 25. (Currently Amended) The method according to any one of the previous claims, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said gaseous medium is directed in a counterflow of a drop section of said drops of the preproduct.

Claim 26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 25, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said gaseous medium is tempered with said drop section of said drops of said preproduct and introduced at the lowest point of said drop section.

Claim 27. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the tempering of said gaseous medium is performed by heat exchanger and that said gaseous medium is conducted in a recycled process.

Claim 28. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said molten preproduct is formed to drops by a vibrational stimulation.

Claim 29. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said preproduct is formed to drops having an intrinsic viscosity in the range between 0.05 to 0.3 cm³/g.

Claim 30. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said preproduct is formed to drops which a diameter is in the range of the double of a nozzle diameter for more than 80 weight-% and which diameter is below the diameter of said nozzle for less than 3 weight-% and which diameter is larger than three times said nozzle diameter for less than 10 weight-% of the drops of said preproduct.

Claim 31. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a dust particle ratio is present during formation of drops which is less than 1 weight-% of said drops of said preproduct.

Claim 32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, characterized in that a low viscosity preproduct having an intrinsic viscosity lower than 0.15 is formed to drops in an environment enclosing fine polyester particles, so that a coating of said drops at their surface takes place with said polyester particles which enhance the crystallization and avoid an adhesion of the solidified drops.

Claims 33-37 (Cancelled).